GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5383
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RURAL INSTITUTES
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had set up a National Council of Rural Institutes(NCRI) in Hyderabad way back in 1995;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the Council;

(c) whether the Council had become fully operational ;

(d) if so, the number of rural institutes set up by the NCRI as on date; and

(e) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The aims and objectives of NCRI are:

(i) promote rural higher education on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi`s revolutionary ideas on education so as to take up challenges of micro-planning for transformation of rural areas as envisaged in National Programme of Education (NPE) 1986 (as modified in 1992):

(ii) consolidate network and develop institutions engaged in programmes of Gandhian Basic Education and Nai Talim;

(iii) encourage other educational institutions and voluntary agencies to develop in accordance with Gandhian Philosophy of education ;

(iv) strengthen teacher training facilities for Gandhian Basic Education;

(v) design a variety of courses at tertiary level around emerging rural occupations;

(vi) strengthen the content of all these institutions with emphasis on science and technology;

(vii) encourage field-oriented courses of rural institutes;

(viii) promote research as a tool for social and rural development;

(ix) promote extension services to the community through micro-level planning ; and

(x) advise Govt. of India on all such matters pertaining to rural institutes as may be referred to it from time to time.

(c) Though the National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI), Hyderabad was established in October, 1995, it could not be made fully operational mainly due to the lack of regular staff. The Council has been functioning only by engaging consultants. Recently, the Government has approved creation of the post of Chairman, NCRI, Hyderabad in the scale of pay of Rs. 25, 000/- pm (fixed) and the process has been initiated to fill up the post. The Ministry of Human Resources Development, the administrative Ministry for NCRI has initiated action for creation of 14 more posts to make the Council fully operational during 2005-06.

(d) The Council has 22 rural institutes in the field of Rural Higher Education, Rural Education Programme, Application of Nai Talim and Skill Development in Rural Artisans. However, no rural institute has been set up, since the Council is yet to be fully functional.

(e) The total amount sanctioned to NCRI is Rs.7.00 crores. As on 31.03.04, Rs. 6.77 crore has been utilized by the Council.